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ABSTRACT

The American Association of Community Colleges' Beacon College Project (BCP) uses funds from the Kellogg Foundation to award two-year grants to "Beacon" community colleges to form consortia with at least five associate colleges, designed to improve a specific aspect of institutional life. A total of 26 projects, many involving community organizations as well as colleges, have been funded for the classes graduating in 1992, 1993, and 1994, focusing on areas as varied as student retention, diversity, and faculty, curriculum, and workforce development. This directory provides a brief description of each consortia directed by the following Beacon Colleges: American River College, California; Baltimore City Community College, Maryland; Calhoun State Community College, Alabama; Chemeketa Community College, Oregon; College of DuPage, Illinois; Collin County Community College, Texas; Community College of Aurora, Colorado; Front Range Community College, Colorado; Houston Community College, Texas; Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Michigan; Kapiolani Community College, Hawaii; Kentucky Community College System; Lake Michigan College; Maricopa Community College System, Arizona; Massachusetts Bay Community College; Metropolitan Community College, Nebraska; Miami-Dade Community College--South, Florida; Middlesex County College, New Jersey; Midlands Technical College, South Carolina; Oakton Community College, Illinois; Rio Hondo College, California; Rockland Community College, New York; St. Louis Community College at Meramec, Missouri; San Juan College, New Mexico; Santa Fe Community College, Florida; and Sinclair Community College, Ohio. Other relevant data, such as associate college contacts, are included. (MAB)

# BEACON COLLEGE PROJECT DIRECTORY

Lynn Barnett,
Editor

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American Association of Community Colleges
*with funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation*

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# INTRODUCTION

The Beacon College Project is an outgrowth of the report of the AACJC Commission on the Future of Community Colleges, *Building Communities: A Vision For A New Century*, which in 1988 challenged the community college world to set its sights broadly and develop programs and services that would "build communities." The goal was to touch all major aspects of institutional life, and the report examined a wide range of issues: partnerships for learning, the curriculum from literacy to lifelong learning, the classroom as community, the college as community, connections beyond the college, and leadership for a new century. With generous funding from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, this project is helping community, technical, and junior colleges across the country to implement many of these recommendations through exemplary programs or services.

The Beacon College concept requires the Beacon College to form a consortium with at least five Associate Colleges. Institutions selected as Beacon Colleges have either developed exemplary programs or services related to recommendations in *Building Communities* that they help Associate Colleges to replicate, or they have completed a substantive plan for such programs or services which can be implemented collectively with their Associate College consortia. In either case, the basic intention of the Beacon College Project is to use a consortium approach to carry out activities that will address the issues identified in the Futures Commission's report.

A total of 26 Beacon Colleges have been awarded two-year grants through the project, and they have brought with them more than 200 Associate Colleges. Additional community, educational, and business partners have also been key players. The Beacon College projects in the first round, represented by the Class of 1992, have just completed their activities. The Class of 1993 projects are currently underway, and the Class of 1994 initiatives are ready to begin. All 26 projects are described in this directory. They offer innovative and creative approaches to such important issues as leadership, student retention, faculty development, curriculum development, ethics, workforce development, literacy, and cultural diversity.

The American Association of Community Colleges expresses appreciation to the Kellogg Foundation for its generous support of this vision for the future.

*David Pierce*
President
American Association of Community Colleges

August 1992

# BEACON COLLEGE PROJECTS BY CLASS

## CLASS OF 1992

**Calhoun (John C.) State Community College, AL** . . . Kids for College and Kids for CHAMPIONS: A Community of Hope

**Chemeketa Community College, OR** . . . . . Building Partnerships with Agencies and Employers to Help High-Risk Students Succeed

**Collin County Community College, TX** . . . . . Students with Education and Experience (SEE)

**College of DuPage, IL** . . . . . Technology Resource Development and Faculty Training Project

**Kapiolani Community College, HI** . . . . . Beyond the Classroom: International Education in Community Colleges

**Kentucky Community College System, KY** . . . . . A Leadership Academy for Kentucky's Community Colleges

**Lake Michigan College, MI** . . . . . Developing Winners in Our Communities – Partnerships for At-Risk Students in Urban/Rural Schools

**Maricopa Community College System, AZ** . . . . . Urban Education Coalitions

**Massachusetts Bay Community College, MA** . . . . The Undergraduate Experience: Massachusetts Community Colleges Building Community By Assessing the Outcomes

**Midlands Technical College, SC** . . . . . Determining the Community College's Effectiveness: Developing Community-Specific Models

**St. Louis Community College at Meramec, MO** . . . Building Community Through Student Diversity: Connecting Non-Traditional Students to Their Learning Communities

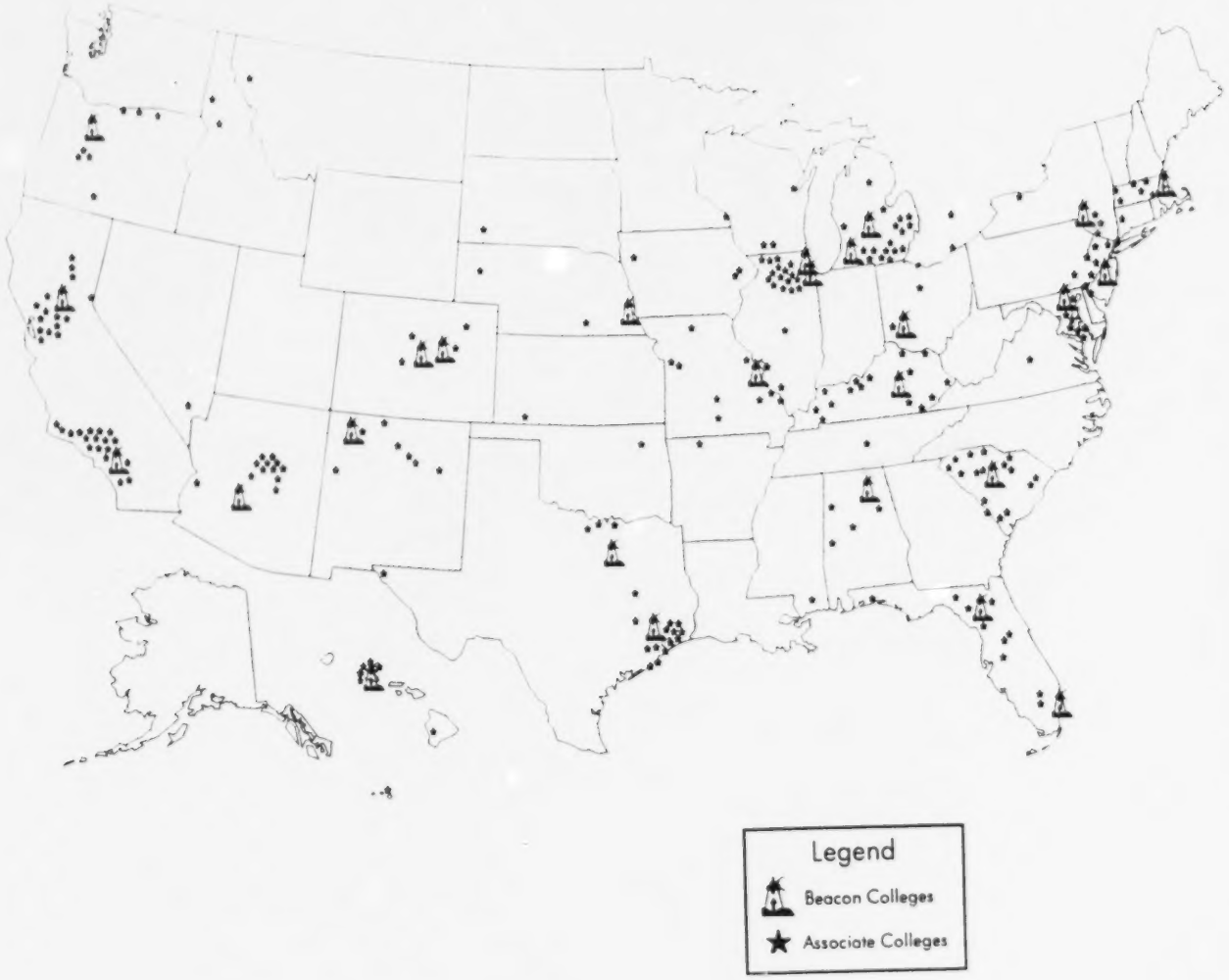
## CLASS OF 1993

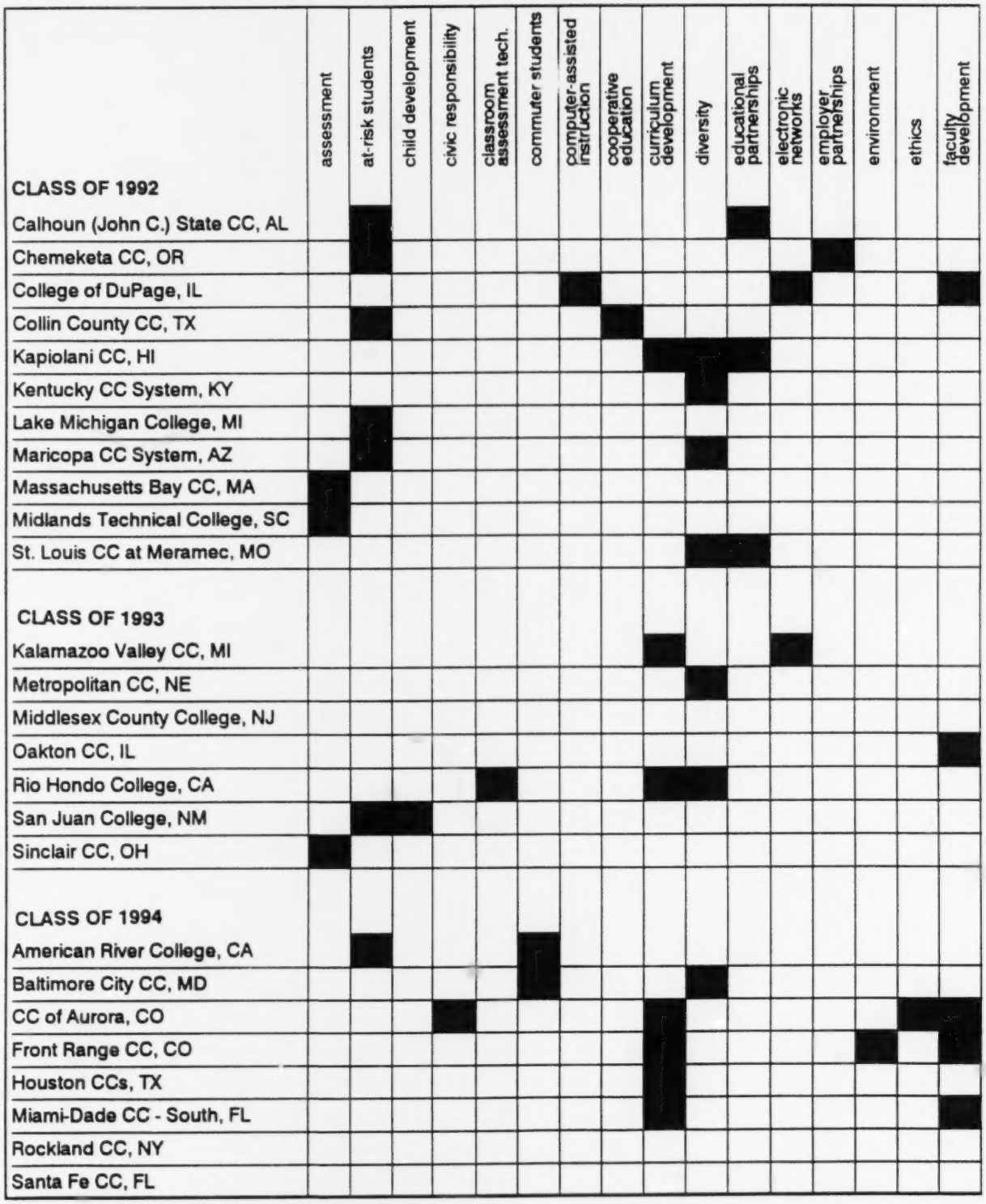
| | |
|---|---|
| **Kalamazoo Valley Community College, MI** | Building Community for an Interdependent World Among Michigan Community Colleges |
| **Metropolitan Community College, NE** | Building a Community of Diverse Leadership: Clearinghouse for Exemplary Practices in Leadership Diversity |
| **Middlesex County College, NJ** | Regional Orientation and Leadership Training Network for Language Minority Students at New Jersey Community Colleges |
| **Oakton Community College, IL** | Critical Literacy Institute |
| **Rio Hondo College, CA** | The Community of the Future Is the Classroom of Today: Using Classroom Assessment Techniques for Pro-Diversity Strategies |
| **San Juan College, NM** | Child Development Training Consortium |
| **Sinclair Community College, OH** | Development of a Comprehensive In-Progress and At-Exit Assessment Program |

## CLASS OF 1994

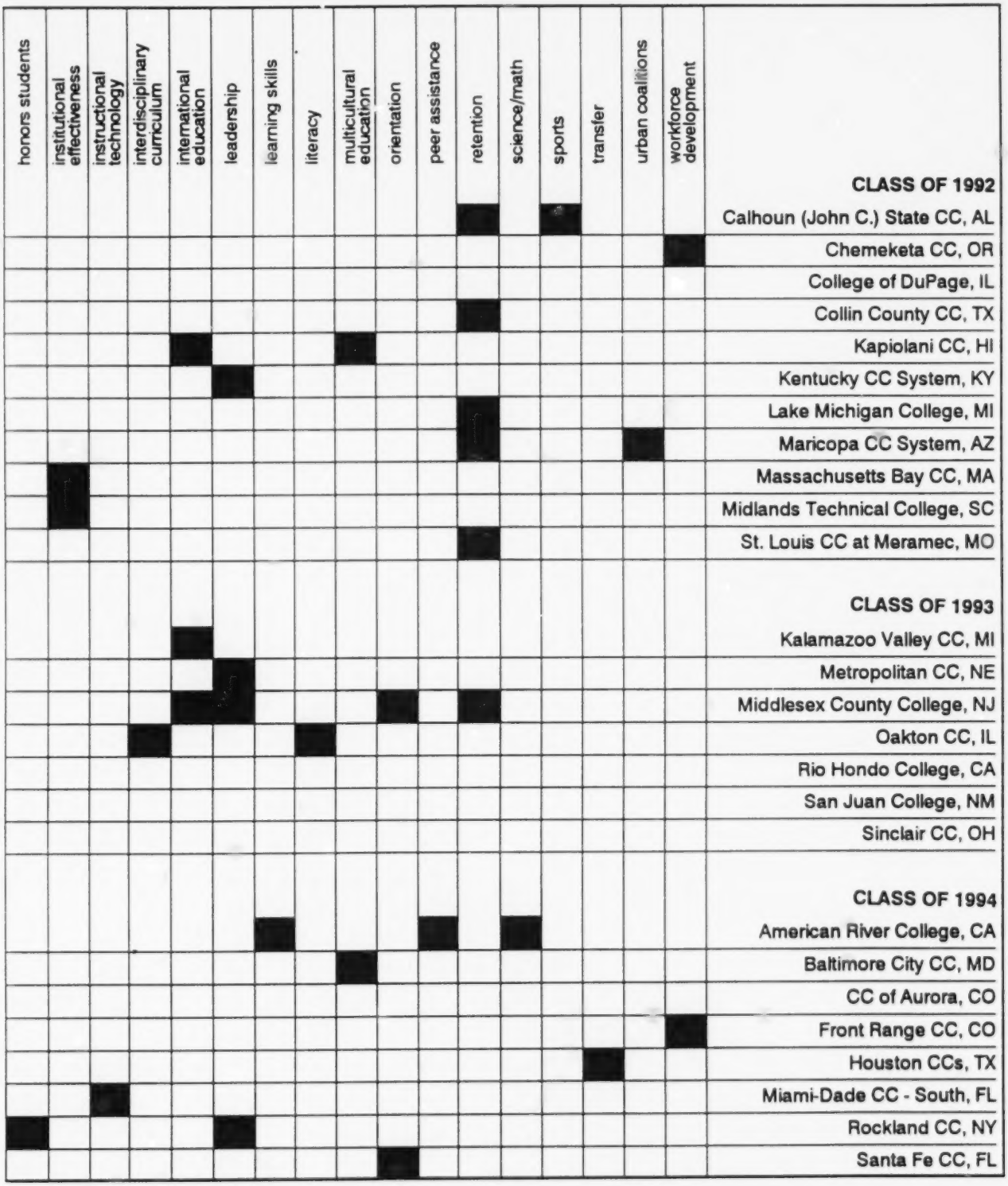
| | |
|---|---|
| **American River College, CA** | Student Catalyst Program: Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) |
| **Baltimore City Community College, MD** | Promoting Intercultural Awareness and Understanding in Maryland Community Colleges |
| **Community College of Aurora, CO** | Ethics-Across-the-Curriculum: A Focus on Civic Responsibility |
| **Front Range Community College, CO** | Hazardous Materials Technology Assistance Program |
| **Houston Community Colleges, TX** | Building an Academic Partnership |
| **Miami-Dade Community College – South, FL** | Building Community in the Classroom Through Multimedia Technology in Feeder High Schools |
| **Rockland Community College, NY** | Recognizing Scholarly Activity by Honors Students: Regional Conferences |
| **Santa Fe Community College, FL** | College Success Network: Building Community Through Extended Orientation |

# BEACON COLLEGE PROJECT LOCATIONS




assessment
at-risk students
child development
civic responsibility
classroom assessment tech.
commuter students
computer-assisted instruction
cooperative education
curriculum development
diversity
educational partnerships
electronic networks
employer partnerships
environment
ethics
faculty development
CLASS OF 1992
Calhoun (John C.) State CC, AL
Chemeketa CC, OR
College of DuPage, IL
Collin County CC, TX
Kapiolani CC, HI
Kentucky CC System, KY
Lake Michigan College, MI
Maricopa CC System, AZ
Massachusetts Bay CC, MA
Midlands Technical College, SC
St. Louis CC at Meramec, MO
CLASS OF 1993
Kalamazoo Valley CC, MI
Metropolitan CC, NE
Middlesex County College, NJ
Oakton CC, IL
Rio Hondo College, CA
San Juan College, NM
Sinclair CC, OH
CLASS OF 1994
American River College, CA
Baltimore City CC, MD
CC of Aurora, CO
Front Range CC, CO
Houston CCs, TX
Miami-Dade CC - South, FL
Rockland CC, NY
Santa Fe CC, FL

# SUMMARY OF BEACON PROJECT TOPICS



# BEACON COLLEGE PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

at-risk students
commuter students
peer assistance
science/math learning
study/learning skills

# AMERICAN RIVER COLLEGE

4700 College Oak Drive
Sacramento, CA 95841
Ph 916/484-8211 Fax 916/484-8674

Queen F. Randall, President
Sharon McCuen, Lead Project Director
Ph 916/484-8306
Nancy Reitz, Project Director
Ph 916/484-8330

**PROJECT TITLE:** Student Catalyst Program: Peer Assisted Learning (PAL)

**DESCRIPTION:** A model Student Catalyst program uses a cadre of trained student learning assistants to work with faculty in selected math and science classes to facilitate small group learning for at-risk students. Study and thinking skills and course content are emphasized. The activities are designed to increase the involvement of commuter students in the life of the college and to improve student success.

**ASSOCIATE COLLEGES:**

BUTTE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
3536 Butte Campus Drive
Oroville, CA 95965
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Patricia Hughes, Project Director

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Terrence Rieger, Project Director

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Ernie Cooper, Interim Project Director

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Patricia L. Wirth, Superintendent/President
Leslie Williams, Project Director

commuter students
diversity
multicultural education

# BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2901 Liberty Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215-7893

James D. Tschechtelin, President
Elizabeth B. Warbasse, Project Director
Ph 410/333-5458 Fax 410/396-7775

**PROJECT TITLE:** Promoting Intercultural Awareness and Understanding in Maryland Community Colleges

**DESCRIPTION:** This multicultural project integrates elements of intercultural literacy into general education courses at participating colleges and improves the awareness of and skills for dealing with intercultural differences and conflict among college faculty and staff. A community-based component of the project will improve the awareness of local areas about cultural diversity. The project will enhance the educational lives of commuter students with diverse backgrounds.

## ASSOCIATE COLLEGES:

CATONSVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
800 South Rolling Road
Catonsville, MD 21228
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Dundalk, MD 21222-4692
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Gail Edmonds, Project Coordinator

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Bel Air, MD 21015-1698
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Richard J. Pappas, President
Linda Parker, Project Coordinator

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE – GERMANTOWN
20200 Observation Drive
Germantown, MD 20874
Ph 301/353-7700 Fax 301/353-7859
Robert E. Parilla, President
Kamala Edwards, Project Coordinator

PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE
301 Largo Road
Largo, MD 20772-2199
Ph 301/336-6000 Fax 301/808-0960
Robert I. Bickford, President
Lynda Adamson, Project Coordinator

at-risk students
middle schools
sports
student retention

# CALHOUN (JOHN C.) STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

P.O. Box 2216
Decatur, AL 35609-2216
Ph 205/353-3102

Richard Carpenter, President
Chris Hamilton, Project Director
Ph 205/353-1912

**PROJECT TITLE:** Kids for College and Kids for CHAMPIONS: A Community of Hope

**DESCRIPTION:** Calhoun Community College is building a new sense of community by working with three service area middle schools, Decatur and Athens' Chambers of Commerce Partners-in Education business/industries, and Calhoun College's staff and students. The project encourages middle schoolers to persevere in their public education and enter college. "Significant adults" work with 50 "Kids for College" on an individual basis, and numerous group activities focus on physical fitness and physical geography. "At-risk" fifth grade students are paired with Calhoun College CHAMPIONS. The college trains the CHAMPIONS in strategies for working with middle schoolers, conducting homework seminars, conducting Saturday academic and sports workshops, taking field trips, and developing continuing community relationships.

## ASSOCIATE COLLEGES:

BESSEMER STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE
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COLUMBIA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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Columbia, TN 38401
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Douglas Eason, Project Coordinator

NORTHEAST ALABAMA STATE
JUNIOR COLLEGE
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Rainsville, AL 35986
Ph 205/638-4418
Charles M. Pendley, President
Joe Burke, Project Coordinator

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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Booneville, MS 38829
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George Wallace Boulevard
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Larry W. McCoy, President
Betsy Johnson, Project Coordinator

SOUTHERN UNION STATE
JUNIOR COLLEGE
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Harold Wade, President and Project Coordinator

at-risk students
dislocated workers
employer partnerships

# CHEMEKETA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

4000 Lancaster Drive, N.E.
P.O. Box 14007
Salem, OR 97309-7070
Ph 503/399-5121 Fax 503/399-5038

William Segura, President
Dawn Marges, Project Director
Chris Neilsen, Project Coordinator
Ph 503/399-5271

**PROJECT TITLE:** Building Partnerships with Agencies and Employers to Help High-Risk Students Succeed

**DESCRIPTION:** The goal of Chemeketa's multiple projects carried out in collaboration with community service agencies and employers is to provide seamless service to students from the time of contact until they fulfill their educational and/or employment goals. This coordinated approach may include assessment, monitoring, case management, appropriate pre-vocational intervention, new curricular models, and locally tailored models for supportive student services. In all cases the goal is to enhance the probability of success among high risk students. Information about components of the individual projects and the process of establishing such collaborations is disseminated through quarterly meetings with associate colleges, through a national newsletter, and through publication of a directory of individual projects.

## ASSOCIATE COLLEGES:

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CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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Harvey O. Bennett, President
Tenison Haley, Project Coordinator

computer-assisted instruction
electronic networks
faculty development

# COLLEGE OF DUPAGE

22nd Street and Lambert Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

H.D. McAninch, President
Joseph Barillari, Project Director
Ph 708/858-2800 x2490

**PROJECT TITLE:** Technology Resource Development and Faculty Training Project

**DESCRIPTION:** DuPage's Faculty Access to Computer Technology (FACT) program represents an unique collaboration that is building a broad understanding of the uses of computer technology in instruction. It provides faculty with training and access to information on a variety of topics including new hardware and software for both instruction and instructional support. The FACT program is buttressed by an open bulletin board system that allows networking and information exchange among faculty in all community college disciplines. Access to resources and training helps faculty develop or improve their abilities to understand and integrate new and emerging technologies and software in their classrooms. The college has established a discipline-specific database of computer software, compiled from faculty reviews of specific programs.

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Karl Sjolander, Project Coordinator (mathematics)

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Amy Blumenthal, Project Coordinator (Division 3)

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Karen Nagle, President
Patricia Kraemer, Project Coordinator (art)

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Dayton, OH 45402
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David H. Ponitz, President
John Graham, Project Coordinator (child and family education)

at-risk students
cooperative education
student retention

# COLLIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

2200 West University
McKinney, TX 75070

John H. Anthony, President
Barbara A. Eubanks, Project Director
Ph 214/881-5735

**PROJECT TITLE:** Students with Education and Experience (SEE)

**DESCRIPTION:** Collin County Community College has built community by providing training materials to other community, technical, and junior colleges, enabling them to effectively replicate a model cooperative education-based student retention program. Successful program components include a video, "Dreams at Risk," developed and used in the on-site programs; a national teleconference that featured the SEE Program; and a panel that included representatives from business and industry, the local Quality Workforce Planning Agency, state legislator Wilhelmina Delco, and two of the Associate Colleges, El Paso Community College and Houston Community College. Presentations were given in 15 locations around the nation, and several colleges have requested additional information and personalized assistance. Locally, the program continues to expand and is being developed into a pre-Tech Prep program.

## ASSOCIATE COLLEGES:

EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE
P.O. Box 20500
El Paso, TX 79998
Ph 915/594-2638
Leonardo de la Garza, President
Harvey Ideus, Project Coordinator

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGES
P.O. Box 7849
Houston, TX 77006
Ph 718/868-0774
Charles A. Green, Chancellor
Marsi Liddell, Project Coordinator

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
4000 East 30th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405-0640
Ph 503/747-4501 Fax 503/744-3970
Jerry Moskus, President
Bob Way, Project Coordinator

NEUMANN COLLEGE
Aston, PA 19014
Ph 215/558-5584
Nan B. Hechenberger, President
Ellen Kaplan, Project Coordinator

ROGERS STATE COLLEGE
Will Rogers & College Hill
Claremore, OK 74017-2099
Ph 918/341-7510
Richard H. Mosier, President
Jeanie Newell, Project Coordinator

SKYLINE COLLEGE
3300 College Drive
San Bruno, CA 94006
Ph 415/355-7000
Linda G. Salter, President
Chester Jones, Project Coordinator

TARRANT COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE – NORTHEAST
828 Harwood Road
Hurst, TX 76054
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civic responsibility
curriculum development
ethics in liberal arts
faculty development

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Ethics-Across-the-Curriculum: A Focus on Civic Responsibility

**DESCRIPTION:** Building on a successful project sponsored by the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, CCA will help Associate Colleges develop projects that emphasize the moral dimension of a liberal arts program with a focus on civic responsibility in the curriculum. Civic initiatives and student civic field activities will be included. Other Beacon components include a week-long seminar for Associate College coordinators, mentoring teams, and an international conference on faculty development.

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environmental education
faculty development
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**PROJECT TITLE:** Hazardous Materials Technology Assistance Program

**DESCRIPTION:** This project will help Associate Colleges in the development and implementation of hazardous materials technology (HAZMATT) programs. Activities include the following: dissemination of curriculum content guides, syllabi, text bank files, textbooks, and instructor manuals for seven core course; assistance with fast-track training programs for dislocated/unemployed workers; open tuition for Associate College instructors; expanded articulation agreements with four-year colleges; assistance with site-specific needs of Associate Colleges; and development of a network for larger grant opportunities.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Building an Academic Partnership

**DESCRIPTION:** Community colleges in the Texas Gulf Coast region, often the only point of entry to higher education for many underrepresented groups, will define a common core of learning that can foster student success and provide academic skills for transfer to a four-year institution. The Beacon project will structure course content for two discipline areas and develop appropriate instructional strategies and assessment techniques to shape a positive learning atmosphere within the classroom.

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curriculum development
electronic networks
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**PROJECT TITLE:** Building Community for an Interdependent World among Michigan Community Colleges

**DESCRIPTION:** Led by Kalamazoo Valley, eight Michigan colleges are creating the International Education Consortium of Southern Michigan Community Colleges to establish a electronic network of communication and activities to strengthen their international education curricula. Through collaborative efforts, the colleges maximize their investment and improve the quality of international programs on each of the eight campuses. Project components include curriculum workshops and colloquia, global awareness activities, and development of international modules to infuse into existing courses.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Beyond the Classroom: International Education in Community Colleges

**DESCRIPTION:** Kapiolani Community College has developed a project aimed at coordinating efforts among community colleges to internationalize their institutions. By pooling the experience and resources of KCC and the Associate Colleges, the project provides information and guidance to institutions interested in internationalizing their curricula, developing exchange programs, developing international education resource centers, promoting student and community involvement, and developing and expanding foreign language instruction, with a particular focus on the Asia/Pacific region. The project's four-volume monograph series, *Beyond the Classroom: International Education in America's Community Colleges*, covers internationalizing the curriculum and campus, making links with Asia and the Pacific, and working with business. A 1992 conference pursued issues raised in the monographs and supported networking activities.

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diversity
leadership development

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**PROJECT TITLE:** A Leadership Academy for Kentucky's Community Colleges

**DESCRIPTION:** Led by Lexington Community College, the 14 institutions in the Kentucky Community College System have developed a Leadership Academy designed to: (1) develop leaders for a statewide Community College System from the ranks of community college faculty and staff; (2) increase the number of women and minorities in leadership roles at all levels, especially for the Dean and President levels; and (3) develop a model of leadership training and networking that can be replicated in other states. Participants develop both personal and professional goals related to leadership roles in community colleges, and college presidents demonstrate a sense of commitment to leadership development. A Summer Institute provides participants with opportunities for learning about the Community College System, developing leadership skills, developing a peer network, and examining national and state issues in the community college movement, government, and business. A semester internship and retreat program provides participants with experience in a leadership role.

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at-risk students
student retention

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Developing Winners in Our Communities – Partnerships for At-Risk Students in Urban/Rural Schools

**DESCRIPTION:** Lake Michigan College has developed a project to organize successful early intervention programs that positively impact the educational future of at-risk youth. The comprehensive program can be adapted and implemented in communities throughout the country. Key elements of this project include: (1) a sponsor program for each identified at-risk student; (2) an educational trust program for at-risk youth modeled after the Michigan Educational Trust; (3) curricular materials, program manuals, videos, and evaluation materials; (4) symposia to provide training necessary to implement the program on Associate College campuses; and (5) ongoing consultation to Associate Colleges for effective program implementation.

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at-risk students
diversity
student retention
urban coalitions

# MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Urban Education Coalitions

**DESCRIPTION:** The Maricopa Community College System has developed a project aimed at helping other urban community college systems adapt and replicate a model for creating innovative community coalitions. The Associate Colleges represent the metropolitan urban areas of Chicago, Los Angeles, Oakland, San Jose, and Orlando. A combined focus of the project targets at-risk students and K-12 restructuring for student retention. Related objectives of the Beacon coalitions are to pool community resources; promote trust and information flow between and among institutions; improve accountability; increase student success; stabilize enrollment; and support the flow of students through the K-16 education pipeline. The project activities include creating a training manual based on the current Maricopa coalition model and conducting training meetings and other technical assistance for the Associate Colleges.

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institutional effectiveness
student assessment

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**PROJECT TITLE:** The Undergraduate Experience: Massachusetts Community Colleges Building Community by Assessing the Outcomes

**DESCRIPTION:** The Massachusetts Bay Community College worked with six Associate Colleges in the state community college system to help them use a student and institutional assessment program as a model to supplement and/or replace their existing assessment strategies to meet their individual campus goals. The purpose was to enable them to respond more concisely to the Massachusetts Board of Regents assessment requirements. The model calls for establishment of an Assessment Task Force at each Associate College, which will later help replicate the model in one or more of the remaining Massachusetts community colleges. Other features of the project include a three-day workshop to prepare plans of action to implement assessment programs. The Beacon College serves as "coach" and resource during the planning and implementation process. Each campus will develop an Assessment Resource Center containing current literature on outcomes assessment and institutional effectiveness.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Building a Community of Diverse Leadership: Clearinghouse for Exemplary Practices in Leadership Diversity

**DESCRIPTION:** MCC's Clearinghouse for Exemplary Practices in Leadership Diversity provides a wide range of focused activities to assist nine Associate Colleges within the consortium to develop individually designed programs in valuing diversity and building diverse leadership teams at each college. Leadership diversity encompasses such issues as management, staff development, equal opportunity, open access, and multiculturalism. Additional project activities include a newsletter, bibliographic resource list, and teleconference. The Clearinghouse approach as well as the projects undertaken at each Associate College will serve as models for replication nationwide as community colleges work to develop new leadership teams for the 21st century.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Building Community in the Classroom through Multimedia Technology in Feeder High Schools

**DESCRIPTION:** This Miami-Dade project assists feeder high schools in integrating multimedia instruction into the curriculum. It provides training in the technology by sharing strategies for implementing the technology in the teaching/learning process, and also provides resources and materials for ongoing development. Other project components include a Institute on Integrating Multimedia into the Curriculum for all Associate Colleges, workshops for the high schools, and development of a multimedia product such as a videodisc for use in the Associate Colleges and feeder schools.

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international education
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student orientation
student retention

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Regional Orientation and Leadership Training Network for Language Minority Students at New Jersey Community Colleges

**DESCRIPTION:** Middlesex County College has developed a student orientation and leadership training program for international students that helps with retention. Students and faculty from five other community colleges have participated in an overnight orientation as a prelude to similar programs being developed at the other institutions. Regional orientations and a handbook on orientation are other project components.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Determining the Community College's Effectiveness: Developing Community-Specific Models

**DESCRIPTION:** The Midlands Tech project focuses on a campus-wide assessment model suitable for use by community colleges with varying student enrollments in both urban and rural settings. The project involved the following: designing and piloting assessment methodologies; developing faculty expertise in external program review; training college personnel on using assessment results for decision-making; and developing a clearinghouse on assessment information. Resulting assessment instruments and methodologies are appropriate for general education, assessment of the major, undergraduate retention, student development, and other support services such as library, financial processes, administrative support, and placement.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Critical Literacy Institute

**DESCRIPTION:** Oakton is helping Associate Colleges create faculty development programs in which faculty members are trained in integrating critical thinking, reading, and writing into courses across the curriculum. A Critical Literacy Institute has five major objectives: to acquire new strategies for creating a critical literacy classroom; to create portfolios that include assignments, texts, etc.; to design or redesign faculty development efforts to enhance the teaching of critical literacy; to create an active network of working relationships among colleges; and to develop personal relationships that help students learn to be critical thinkers. Other project activities include a national conference on critical literacy.

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classroom assessment techniques
instructional materials
pro-diversity

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**PROJECT TITLE:** The Community of the Future is the Classroom of Today: Using Classroom Assessment Techniques for Pro-Diversity Strategies

**DESCRIPTION:** In order to address the changing classroom in "new majority" communities, this project implements an approach proven effective at Rio Hondo College: pro-diversity techniques that increase the spectrum of represented groups in pedagogies and materials in the classroom. The approach complements classroom assessment techniques and promotes inclusiveness and pro-diversity awareness of all students in these classes. The project includes awareness and training workshops and a resource collection of materials and techniques.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Recognizing Scholarly Activity by Honors Students: Regional Conferences

**DESCRIPTION:** Rockland's model honors program is the basis of its Beacon project, which will sponsor scholarly conferences for honors students from two-year colleges within the Middle Atlantic Region. The conferences will recognize students' independent research and scholarly presentation. Faculty juries will select student papers to be presented and distinguished researchers will act as chief judges, with awards going to both students and faculty mentors.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Building Community through Student Diversity: Connecting Non-Traditional Students to Their Learning Communities

**DESCRIPTION:** The St. Louis Community College at Meramec is building community through emphasis upon student diversity in participating community colleges in Missouri and selected secondary schools associated with each college. Each participating institution focuses on gaining resource persons, recognizing innovators, and improving the classroom atmosphere for "students at risk." The targeted students experience improved completion of academic programs, greater self-esteem, and willingness to continue their education at the next level. Participants are introduced to important teaching/learning techniques that help nontraditional students succeed academically. The Associate College and secondary level co-participants emphasize one classroom approach and then design and carry out a project, based on that approach, in at least one class. Participants share information and become mentors for their colleagues. A publication summarizing the project is available.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** Child Development Training Consortium

**DESCRIPTION:** The San Juan consortium is creating child development training materials that can be used effectively by community college faculty to teach "at risk" Native American and Hispanic students enrolled in early childhood education programs. The collaborative process and products developed will improve training programs, increase the number of students graduated, and strengthen the region's capacity to respond to the needs of low income, rural families with young children.

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**PROJECT TITLE:** College Success Network: Building Community through Extended Orientation

**DESCRIPTION:** Santa Fe's project builds on its acclaimed semester-long, credit orientation course, College Success, at its Associate Colleges. Project components include two annual workshops, network-wide evaluation, development of a monitoring relationship between the Beacon College instructors and network colleges, identification of exemplary resources within state community colleges, and state and national dissemination.

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**DESCRIPTION:** The Sinclair project will assemble, research, field-test, and document exemplary in-progress and at-exit assessment methods. The project includes development of a guidebook of assessment methods and a national conference.

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